

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A collection of particles comprising metal vanadium oxide, the particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron and wherein less than about 1 particle in 10^6 has a diameter greater than about four times the average diameter of the collection of particles.

2. (Original) The collection of particles of claim 1 wherein the particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 100 nm.

3. (Original) The collection of particles of claim 1 wherein the particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 50 nm.

4. to 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The collection of particles of claim 1 wherein less than about 1 particle in 10^6 ~~have~~ has a diameter greater than about two times the average diameter of the collection of particles.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The collection of particles of claim 33 ~~[[1]]~~ wherein the collection of particles have a distribution of particle sizes such that at least about 95 percent of the particles have a diameter greater than about 60 percent of the average diameter and less than about 140 percent of the average diameter.

10. to 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A battery comprising a positive electrode having active particles comprising metal vanadium oxide within a binder, the active particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron and wherein less than about 1 particle in 10^6 has a diameter greater than about four times the average diameter of the collection of particles.

18. (Original) The battery of claim 17 wherein the active particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 100 nm.

19. to 21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The battery of claim 17 wherein the positive electrode further comprises supplementary, electrically conductive particles.

23. (Currently Amended) The battery of claim 17 wherein less than about 1 active particle in 10^6 have a diameter greater than about ~~four~~ two times the average diameter of the collection of active particles.

24. (Previously Presented) The collection of particles of claim 1 wherein the particles have an average diameter less than about 500 nm.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 17 wherein the active particles have an average diameter less than about 500 nm.

27. (Previously Presented) The collection of particles of claim 1 wherein the metal vanadium oxide is crystalline.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The battery of claim 17 wherein the metal vanadium oxide is crystalline.

30. (New) A collection of particles comprising metal vanadium oxide, the particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron and wherein the collection of particles has a distribution of particle sizes such that at least about 95 percent of the particles have a diameter greater than about 40 percent of the average diameter and less than about 160 percent of the average diameter.

31. (New) The collection of particles of claim 30 wherein the particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 100 nm.

32. (New) The collection of particles of claim 30 wherein the particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 50 nm.

33. (New) A battery comprising a positive electrode having active particles comprising metal vanadium oxide within a binder, the active particles having an average diameter less than about 1 micron and wherein the collection of particles has a distribution of particle sizes such that at least about 95 percent of the particles have a diameter greater than about 40 percent of the average diameter and less than about 160 percent of the average diameter.

34. (New) The battery of claim 31 wherein the collection of particles have a distribution of particle sizes such that at least about 95 percent of the particles have a diameter greater than about 60 percent of the average diameter and less than about 140 percent of the average diameter.

35. (New) The battery of claim 33 wherein the particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 100 nm.

36. (New) The battery of claim 33 wherein the particles have an average diameter from about 5 nm to about 50 nm.